

BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES FOR

DATE: Friday, July 18, 2025

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: IN-PERSON IN CARPINTERIA & TELECONFERENCE

0BItem	1B1A	Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions –Chair, Eric Friedman
Minutes/ Actions:	Members Present: • Vianey Lopez (County of Ventura) • Matt LaVere (County of Ventura) • Roy Lee (County of Santa Barbara) • Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara) • Jennifer Smith (City of Goleta) • Gabe Teran, (City of Oxnard) • Steven Gama (City of Port Hueneme) Members Not Present: • Doug Halter (City of Ventura) • James Kyriaco (City of Goleta) • Julie Mayer (City of Carpinteria) • Laura Capps (County of Santa Barbara)	
4BItem	5B1B - C	6BApproval of Administrative Items B. 7BApproval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting. C. 8BConsideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meeting held on May 16, 2025.
10BMin utes/ Actions:	Board Members Comments: • None. Public Comments: • None. 11BMotion to approve Items IB and IC as set forth in the agenda. Moved by LaVere / Second by Gama. Unanimously approved.	
12BItem	13B2	Public Comment and Other Matters not on the agenda 14BReceive public comments.
15BMinutes/ Actions:	Board Members Comments: • None. Public Comments: • None.	
16BItem	17B3	Presentations - Recommended Actions: - Receive presentations on Dredging and Beach Nourishment Programs in the Santa Barbara Littoral Cell. - Approve and authorize the Chair to sign letters of support for the federal projects aligned with BEACON’s purpose in the Santa Barbara Littoral Cell on behalf of BEACON.
18BMinutes/	Executive Director Marc Beyeler indicated that this morning there will be three	

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Actions:	presentations from each of the three harbors within the BEACON littoral Cell. All three harbors engage in harbor dredging and beneficial reuse of sediment. All the dredging is federally funded with separate federal authorizations. The local governments do not have the capacity to fund their dredging, and it is critical that the federal funding is maintained. Presentations will be made by Todd Mitchell from Ventura Harbor, Michael Tripp from Channel Islands Harbor and Mike Wiltshire from Santa Barbara Harbor. Each will brief us on the status of dredging and dredging finance. Every year BEACON hosts a Sand Summit to discuss the harbors. • The first Presenter was Todd Michell, representing Ventura Harbor. • The second presenter was Michael Tripp representing Channel Island Harbor. • The third presenter is Mike Wiltshire representing Santa Barbaraa Harbor. Copies of the three presentations will be posted to the BEACON Website. Board Members Comments: • Member Teran indicated that he will have to leave during the third presentation. • Member Gama asked what is the breakdown of the \$26M referenced? • Michael Tripp responded that there is \$8M/yr set aside in the President’s Budget for two years and \$4M in total from the Navy for a total of \$20M over the two years. Based on the increased cost of \$26M, we are \$6M short. • Member Lee indicated that we all represent our jurisdictions, and BEACON is a great supporter of the harbor dredging. Shouldn’t the local jurisdictions identify funding for sand nourishment at a policy level? • Chair Friedman indicated that this was a great question. If the local agencies were to step up locally it would be very challenging further necessitating the need for regional solutions. • Member Gama indicated that Michael Tripp mentioned dune restoration at the Channel Island Sand Trap. There is a 30M CY sand deficit over time at Channel Islands Harbor. If you go back 20 years, there were no dunes. We must remind ourselves that we have cut off the natural flow of sand. Was the USACE responded to a Coastal Commission directive regarding the protection of the dunes? • Michael Tripp indicated that the USACE responded to a California Department of Fish and Wildlife directive, and the Coastal Commission approved the project. • Vice Chair Gama indicated that we do beach cleanup all the time and see that the birds are resilient and move to other areas as needed. It is frustrating, when the priorities get slightly muddled. • Michael Tripp understands the frustration, especially from the residents, but the reality is that implementing any project is increasingly challenging from a permitting standpoint. • Chair Friedman asked that staff provide an update on all three federal funding at the Executive Director Report. Public Comments:
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	None.
	Motion to approve item - Moved by Gama / Second by Lopez. Unanimously approved.

22BItem	23B5A	BEACON Organization and Program Board Members Reports
24BMinutes/ Actions:	Board Members Comments: - Member Gama reported that he sent a video at Perkins Road to the Executive Director yesterday. It's so beautiful and I appreciate to be part of this organization to help the coastline. - Executive Director indicated Perkins Road, which is Orman Beach. Unfortunately, you cannot get there anymore, there is no coastal access. Public Comments: - None.	

22BItem	23B5B	Science Advisory Committee (SAC) Recommended Actions: - Confirm the appointment of Members and Co-Chairs of the Science Advisory Committee (SAC) (Exhibit 1). - Adopt revisions to the SAC Bylaws, including 1) defining a quorum of the SAC as a majority of the members, and 2) making changes to the SAC Bylaws subject the vote of a majority of the Board Member. (7 votes required). (Attachment 1).
24BMinutes/ Actions:	Executive Director Beyeler explained that four years ago the Board elected to approve a Science Advisory Committee and accepted the Chairs of the SAC. We would like to extend the terms of the Chairs and add a social and environmental justice member, as requested by the Board. We have now added the new member, Dr. Jose Casto-Sotomayor. There is a two-item request before the Board today. First to re-appoint the members of the SAC and the second is to modify the bylaws of the SAC, which now requires two-thirds of members to be present to constitute a quorum at the SAC meeting. Unlike the BEACON Board, the SAC members are spread all over California, therefore requiring that two thirds of them be present at the SAC meeting is onerous. We are therefore recommending changing the SAC bylaws to allow a simple majority to constitute a quorum. Board Members Comments: - Chair Friedman asked how often to the SAC meet? - The Executive Director indicated that the SAC has one annual meeting. How, the SAC also attends a Managers-Scientists Summit. We have two manager liaisons from our member agencies. There is no compensation for SAC members, so we try not to put too much on their plates. That said, many of the SAC members also participate as agency, consultants, or university representatives on BEACON's various projects.	

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	- Member LaVere asked who the new Social and Environmental Justice member of SAC is because there is no Social and Environmental Justice member on the SAC list attached to the staff report. - The Executive Director indicated that the new SAC member is Dr. Jose Castro-Sotomayor, and the name will be added to the list. This was an erroneous omission. - Vice Chair Gama emphasized how impressive the SAC membership is, it gives significant credibility to BEACON. - Chair Friedman agreed that SAC is very important to BEACON's credibility and the scientific data that the SAC brings to BEACON. This is often brought up at public meetings throughout the State. Public Comments: - None. Motion to approve item with the correction to the staff report to add Dr. Jose Castro-Sotomayor to the SAC member list - Moved by Teran / Second by Gama. Unanimously approved.
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22BItem	23B5C	Presentation on the BEACON Financial Report for the Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024. Receive and file the BEACON Biennial Financial Report for Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024
24BMinutes/ Actions:		Executive Director Beyeler indicated he wanted to highlight one item on page 6 of the financial report. The Audit Firm concluded regarding the financial position of BEACON which is a review of the practices that BEACON follows which in turn, is the practices of the account practices of Centura County. The Audit references that over the last two years, we have strengthened our financial position primarily through grant funding and increasing our net reserves. We work very closely with the Audit Controller Office of Ventura. Board Members Comments: - Member Teran asked if the Biennial Financial Report can be posted to the BEACON Website. - Executive Director Beyeler indicated that the Agenda Packet which includes the report is posted on the BEACON Website but that the financial report will be pulled out and posted separately. Public Comments: - None. Motion to approve item - Moved by Gamsa / Second by Teran. Unanimously approved.

22BItem	23B5D	BEACON Contracts and Agreements
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	<i>Recommended Actions:</i> - Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI), Kiersten Patsch, PhD to assist BEACON in providing science and technical services to the County of Santa Barbara to prepare a sediment management program (“the BeachSMART project”) for the southern area of Santa Barbara County with a period of performance from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028 for a total amount not to exceed \$45,000 with funding provided by the California State Coastal Conservancy (Attachment I). - Approve and authorize the Executive Director to amend the Agreement with the City of Santa Barbara to extend the Agreement for the Regional Coastal Adaptation Monitoring Program to December 31, 2027 and to shift funding between budget items without an increase to the total amount of \$475,000, upon approval of legal counsel and auditor-controller. (Attachment II). - Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Marc Beyeler/Beyeler & Associates to provide Executive Director services to BEACON with a period of performance from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$165,227.40. (Attachment III)
24B Minutes/ Actions:	Executive Director Beyeler reported that the SBCO BeachSMART Program is underway to develop a get debris basin material to the beach. BEACON was asked to assist them to construct this program. We worked with CSUCI to bring Dr. Patsch to advise the County on getting debris basin material to the coast, which surprisingly has never been a permitted activity outside of emergency conditions. We need thoughtful regional sediment management practices so we can honor ecological and human communities, and it is a balancing act. For example, in 2023 Carpinteria’s Ash Avenue received 50,000 CY of Sand to protect the beach. However, this required 5,000 dump truck trips through downtown Carpinteria, and there is an impact on the community. We are asking the Board to approve this contract with Dr. Patsch. The second item we bring to you is the Regional Coastal Adaptation Monitoring Program (RCAMP) which is developing a model to capture monitoring data to share with all jurisdictions. Today we are asking to amend the RCAMP Agreement to align funding. The third item is the approval of the FY 2025-2026 Executive Director agreement. Legal Counsel, Susan McKenzie, indicated that prior to the Board’s approval of this item, for agreement 5D iii, in accordance with Government Code Section 54953 subdivision (c)(3), the Executive Director’s salary shall be verbally summarized. The recommended action includes an increase of \$5,587 effective July 1, 2025, which results in an increase in the annual salary from \$159,640 to \$165,227. Board Members Comments: Chair Friedman indicated that the RCAMP is critical in capturing regional monitoring. It is one of the benefits of BEACON because we work with all the

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	jurisdictions. It is so critical. Public Comments: • None. Motion to approve Items 5D as recommended on the agenda - Moved by LaVere / Second by Lee. Unanimously approved.
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28BItem	Executive Director's Report and Communications The Executive Director will report on recent activities and achievements of BEACON, upcoming events of interest to the Board of Directors and the public, and general status of BEACON major projects, including the status of recent BEACON presentations on activities and accomplishments to our member agencies. There will be no Board discussion except to ask questions or refer matters to Staff; no action will be taken unless listed on a subsequent agenda.
30BMin utes/ Actions:	Executive Director Beyeler mentioned one of the actions of the Board today under Item 3 was the approval for the Chair to sign letters of support for the federal projects aligned with BEACON's purpose in the Santa Barbara Littoral Cell. The language of the letters is in development to support full federal funding for all three harbors. In addition, BEACON, through Brian Brennan, was in DC in March in lobbying for continued dredging. In addition, I wanted to make sure that it is understood that all the BEACON's studies eventually support on-the-ground projects. In that light, Phase 2 of the Surfers Point project is now complete. It is a project that has achieved all that it promised. The project was very costly, and it was delivered in phases. We will bring some more detailed information back to the Board. The project is being nominated for a National Award and in October at the ASBPA event the project may win one of the "best restored shoreline" awards. Similarly, a Best Practices Manual on the Santa Barbara County Debris Basin Project was completed and provided to the Board. The manual documents the design parameters for debris basin modifications that allow the flow of sediment downstream while still protecting the community from major flood events. BEACON has had a successful year, and we have a lot coming up this next fiscal year. We post all our presentations that are made at board meetings and at BEACON events on the BEACON Website and me, or our other staff can always provide more details on any of our projects to Board Members as needed or requested. We always try to have one Board Member present at our various events and request that Board Members speak at the events. We have a few online presentations being scheduled in the next few months – one of which will be the RCAMP. Also because of the board's visioning workshop last year, we are now preparing with Stacy Miller a BEACON 2025 Report which we can present to all your agencies, as we did a few years ago. We also know that we need more effective reports for delivery to the larger community.

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	Board Members Comments: • Brian Brennan mentioned that BEACON will be attending the ASBPA Conference in Long Beach in October and Board Members are always welcome to participate. Brian also mentioned that at the lobbying effort in DC we were able to meet with our State Senators and join our east coast colleagues also pressing for federal funding for coastal protection and dredging. • Chair Friedman adjourned the meeting. Public Comments: • None.
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The next Board Meeting will be held on September 19, 2025, 9:00 AM, at the City of Carpinteria City Council Chambers.

Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.